

p. 104, 'Rotten' for 'Kotten'; p. 824, 'Hunt' for 'Hurst.' In vol. i. p. 188 the English translation of Lechler's *Wiclif*, by Lorimer, might be mentioned.

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Catalogue des Actes d'Henri I^{er}, Roi de France. Par FRÉDÉRIC SOHNÉE. ('Bibliothèque de l'Ecole des Hautes Etudes,' CLXI^e Fascicule.) (Paris: Champion. 1907.)

M. SOHNÉE has here continued the studies of which he published a first instalment in the *Positions des Thèses* of the Ecole des Chartes for 1891. His work is admirably thorough, giving lists of all the known copies of documents even in cases where the original exists and has been consulted. It is not his fault that the harvest turns out to be small. The catalogue contains only 125 notices, some of which refer to lost documents; and while in some curious details it corroborates or supplements the narratives of the chroniclers the amount of new information which it affords is small. It is interesting to compare this catalogue with that of Angevin documents recently published by M. Halphen.¹ Since there exist a certain number of charters to which both Henry I and Geoffrey Martel are parties the two collections overlap. It is difficult, upon examining the points of contact, to avoid the conclusion that M. Sohnée in his relatively narrow field of inquiry shows greater thoroughness than his colleague. No. 70 in the collection of M. Halphen corresponds to no. 71 in the present work. M. Sohnée has unearthed the original, while M. Halphen merely cites a copy; and in his analysis M. Halphen omits to notice that the grant is confirmed by Henry I and Thibault of Blois. M. Halphen furthermore adopts without explanation the date conjecturally assigned by Mabille; but M. Sohnée discusses and rejects this date. There are, in the collection of M. Sohnée, analyses of four documents (nos. 98, 106, 107, 115) which have a bearing upon Angevin history but are not catalogued by M. Halphen. Finally, if we compare no. 111 in the catalogue of M. Halphen with no. 91 in that of M. Sohnée it is at once apparent that we are dealing with one and the same document. But M. Sohnée calls attention to its most interesting feature, the mention of a Frankish form of manumission: the so-called royal form, in which the chief ceremony is that of knocking a coin out of the freedman's hand. It must not be supposed that the student can afford to rely exclusively upon the catalogue of M. Sohnée. Careful though he is he sometimes omits to notice a fact of first-rate importance. In the case of the document last cited he ignores the attestation of Geoffrey Martel; and similarly in no. 81 he does not tell us that Robert of Burgundy here appears as one of the king's assessors in a *plaid royal*. So little is known about the relations of the great feudatories with the early Capets that these attestations have a real value for historians. It is indeed a matter for regret that the editors of French catalogues should make a point of omitting lists of witnesses even when they are describing unpublished materials.

We naturally turn to such a catalogue for fresh light on Norman history. But the results of the search are disappointing. It is sugges-

tive that we discover meetings between Henry and the count of Anjou in the years preceding the battles of Arques and Varaville (nos. 91, 98, 107). On the first occasion the count comes to Orleans; on the second the king goes to Angers 'on the business of the kingdom.' Three other charters are dated at the siege of Thimert (nos. 114, 115, 116). We notice that, while M. Halphen gives the year as 1069-80, M. Sahnée prefers 1058-9. Another document (no. 88), which falls within the years 1082-5, is of some interest as throwing light upon the fief of Bellême. Here Ivo of Bellême acknowledges that he holds the cell of Sainte Gauburge in Bellême as a fief from the king. This should be compared with no. 176 in the catalogue of M. Halphen, where Hugh of Roodé, in granting away the church of St. Martin at Bellême, acknowledges as his suzerains the bishop of Sées, the count of Anjou, and Eudes the brother of Henry I, but makes no mention of the duke of Normandy. Presumably the bishop of Sées is here merely invited to confirm in his character of diocesan. That being so, we have two clear cases in which lands lying within the fief of Bellême are regarded as independent of Normandy. It is interesting to note that a spurious charter, noticed by M. Halphen,² makes William of Bellême exempt his foundation of St. Leonard from the jurisdiction of the ordinary with the consent of King Robert and the bishop of Sées. Here Bellême appears as a fief held immediately from the crown. The date of the forgery must be early, since the quarrel to which it relates was settled about 1127;³ and the document may therefore be treated as of some authority for the position held by William. By the year 1079 Bellême was held immediately from the duke of Normandy.⁴

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Recherches historiques et topographiques sur les Compagnons de Guillaume le Conquérant. Par ETIENNE DUPONT. (St. Servan: Privately printed. 1907.)

THIS is the first part of a work intended to cover the whole region from which William's followers were drawn. It deals with the Norman department of La Manche, five departments of Brittany, and four of Poitou, together with Artois, the Boulonnais, and Belgium (Flanders). M. Dupont very properly insists on the need of geographical accuracy in determining the localities from which came the conquerors of England. It is, no doubt, in this direction that French scholars can render us the most service by utilising local knowledge of place-names, ruins, and earthworks. Unfortunately, in spite of the author's critical remarks on those who have preceded him in this field, and whose errors he undertakes to correct, his own methods are prehistoric. For William's followers he uses, in addition to Domenday, the 'Listes,' which cover the discredited Battle Abbey Roll and the modern scientifically compiled list of M. Léopold Delisle. As an amazing instance of confusion we may cite from the introduction this passage:—

Le récit de la bataille d'Hastings, dans le *Roman de Rou de Wace* (vers 7849 à 8886) peut être considéré comme la plus ancienne liste des combattants

² *Op. cit.* p. 340.

³ Round, *Calendar of Documents, France*, p. 430.

⁴ *Ibid.* p. 429.